

CHAPTER 3

FLAG SIGNALS FOR ARMORED AND MECHANIZED UNITS

3-1. GENERAL

- a. Flags are issued to armored and mechanized units for control purposes and as an alternate means of communication within these units. Each combat vehicle is equipped with a flag set consisting of one red, one yellow, and one green flag. Flag signals may be given by using a single flag or a combination of two or three flags, according to a prearranged code. Flag signals, when understood, are repeated and executed at once (Figures 3-1 through 3-7).
- b. Flags are used to:
 - (1) Mark vehicle positions. For example, a quartermaster member uses colored flags in an assembly area to mark positions.
 - (2) Identify disabled vehicles.
 - (3) Warn friendly elements of an advancing enemy. For example, an observation post uses a flag to signal a platoon to move to its fighting position.
 - (4) Control movement. Flags serve as an extension of arm-and-hand signals when distances between vehicles become too great.
- c. When used alone, flag colors have the following meanings.
 - (1) Red – DANGER, or ENEMY IN SIGHT.
 - (2) Green – ALL CLEAR, READY, or UNDERSTOOD.
 - (3) Yellow – DISREGARD, or VEHICLE OUT OF ACTION.
- d. During periods of limited visibility flashlights with colored filters or colored chemical lights may be substituted for flags.



Figure 3-1. Use of a Single Signal Flag.

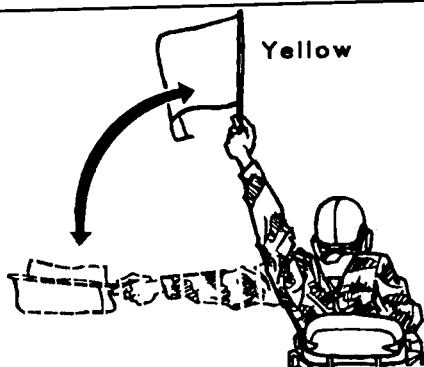


Figure 3-2. MOUNT.

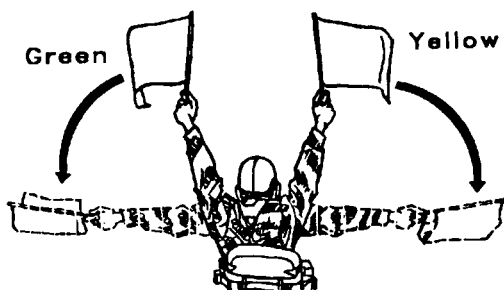


Figure 3-3. DISMOUNT.

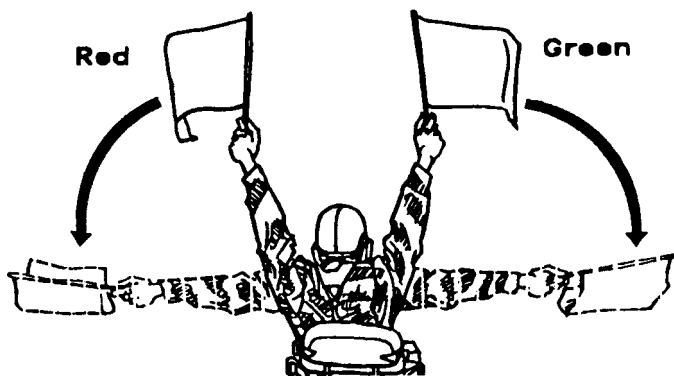


Figure 3-4. DISMOUNT AND ASSAULT.

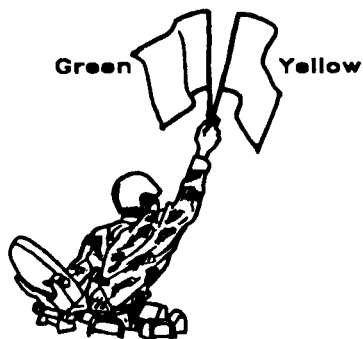


Figure 3-5. ASSEMBLE or CLOSE.

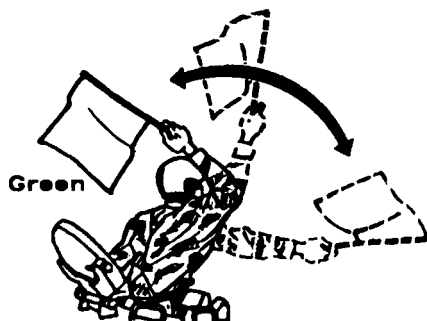


Figure 3-6. MOVE OUT.

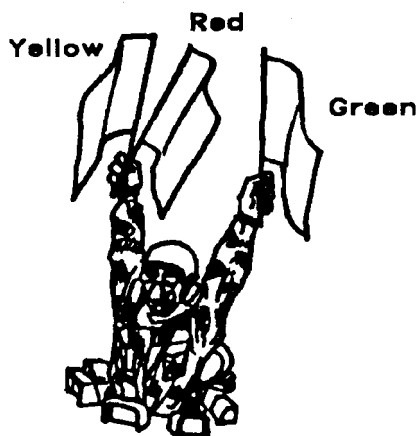


Figure 3-7. NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL HAZARD PRESENT.

3-2. Firing Range Flag Signals

Signal flags are used on firing ranges for tanks or fighting vehicles to indicate the status of the range and the status of the individual vehicle. A red flag at the control point indicates that firing may be conducted, while a green flag indicates that it may not (Figures 3-8 through 3-12).

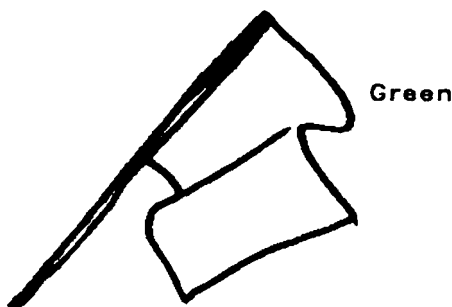


Figure 3-8. ALL WEAPONS CLEAR (guns elevated).

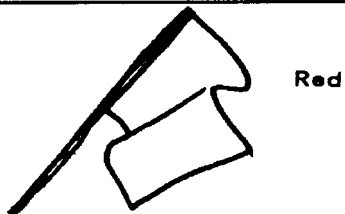


Figure 3-9. CONDUCTING LIVE FIRE.

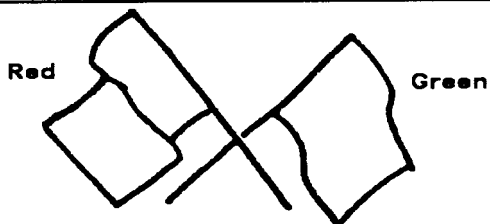


Figure 3-10. CONDUCTING PREPARE-TO-FIRE or NONFIRING EXERCISES. Ammunition is uploaded and the system is on safe.

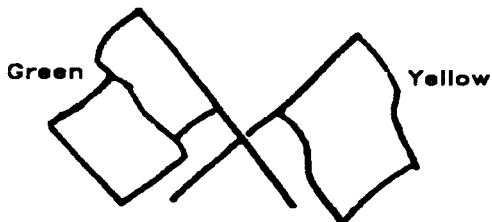


Figure 3-11. MALFUNCTION-WEAPONS CLEAR.

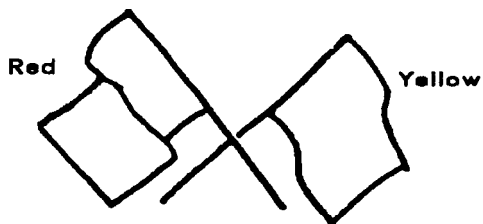


Figure 3-12. MALFUNCTION-WEAPONS LOADED.